brevicollis and *O. brahma* reported by Arrow (1931) from Bangalore were not found during this study.

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30. FIRST RECORD OF *DIRHINUS ALTICORNIS* (MASI) AND *ANNECKEIDA ANGUSTIFRONS* BOUCEK (HYMENOPTERA: CHALCIDOIDEA) FROM INDIA

(*With three text-figures*)

During the faunal exploration of tropical rainforests of Western Ghats by Zoological Survey of India, Western Ghats Field Research Station, Calicut, two interesting chalcids were collected from semievergreen forest patches in Coorg district (Karnataka) and Kannur district (Kerala).

Dirhinus Dalman, one of the most distinctive genera of the family Chalcididae is distributed in all warmer countries of the world, Africa, Europe, Asia, Australia and Pacific islands. Members of this genus are parasitic on puparia of various Diptera, especially Calliphoridae, Sarcophagidae, Muscidae and also of certain Tephritidae.

Dirhinus alticornis (Masi), a remarkable species of the genus was originally described from Philippines by Masi (1927) under the name *Pareniaca alticornis*. Narendran (1989) examined a male specimen of *alticornis* from Philippines. One female specimen of the species was collected by me from a semievergreen forest patch at Aniyad, falling under the Kannavam RF of Kannur district, Kerala. The present record of *D. alticornis* (Masi) from the Western Ghats proves the further extension of its distribution to peninsular India and the third record from the Oriental Region.

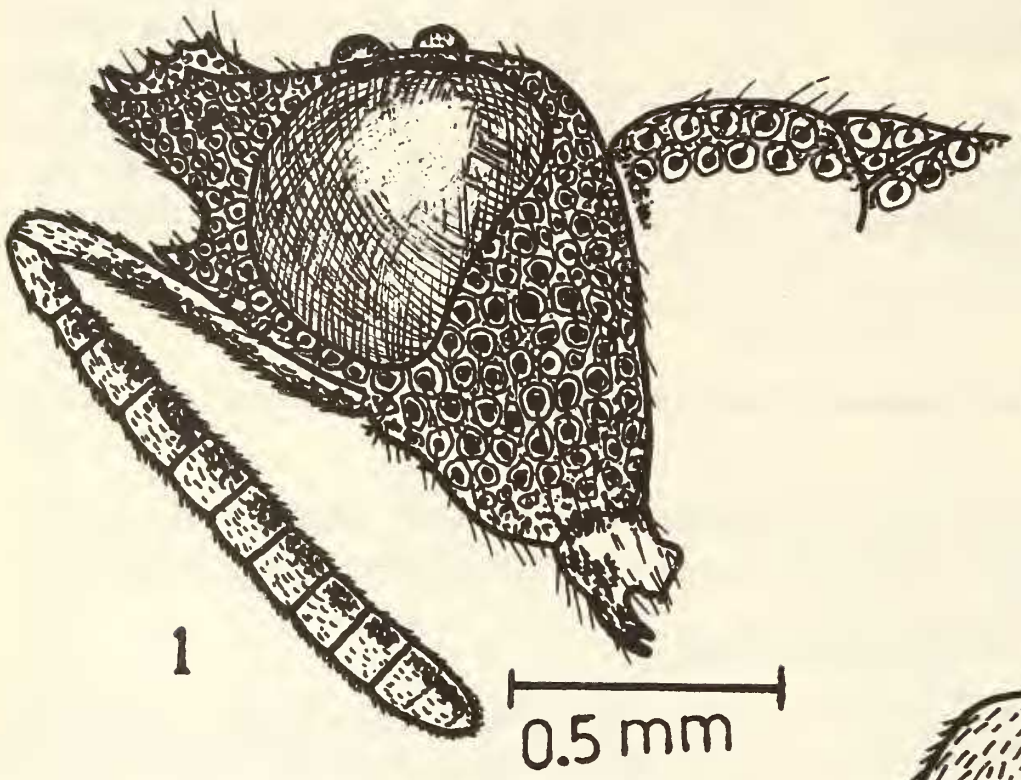
D. alticornis is a characteristic species having the anterior inner edge of its frontal horn crenulate with an additional tooth on the outer edge. It has a strong facial tooth, and the posterior median area of pronotum depressed with an impunctate shagreened area. In males the antenna is peculiar with a spatulate club.

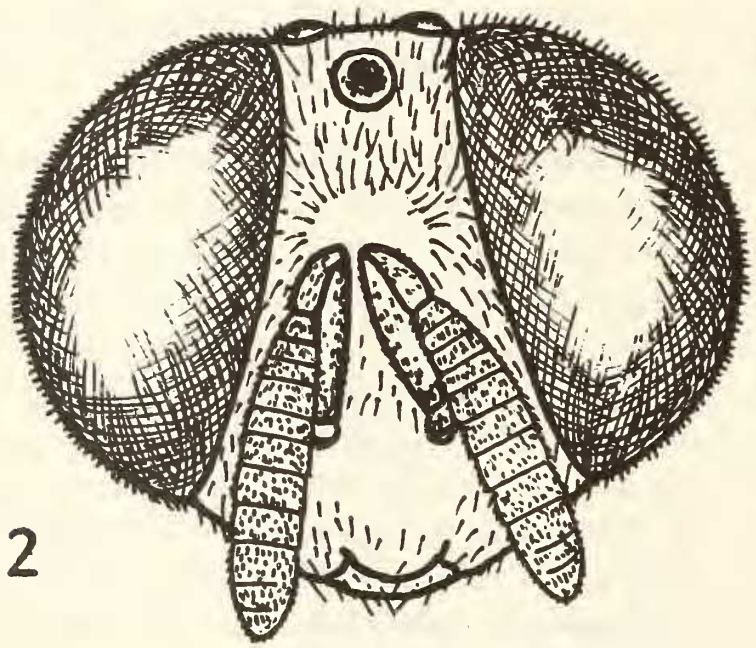
Specimen examined: 1 FEMALE. INDIA: Kerala, Aniyad (Kannavam RF), 1. ii. 1995, Coll. P.M. Sureshan *et al.*

Anneckeida Boucek, an African genus of Torymidae is represented by four Oriental species from West Malaysia, Thailand, Laos, and East Malaysia, apart from the type species from Rhodesia (Africa). *A. angustifrons* was originally described by Boucek (1978) based on a female specimen collected from Thailand. One female specimen of this species was collected by me from a forest patch at Chitekanum, falling under the Sampage reserve forests of Coorg district, Karnataka. This record constitutes its rediscovery from the Oriental Region subsequent to the original description and proves the extension of its distribution to Peninsular India.

Like all other Oriental species *A. angustifrons* also has hind femur with a ventral comb of teeth which begins with a conspicuous larger tooth. The species is also characterised by a face with inner orbits, distinctly converging upwards frons only 0.25 x the breadth of head and the ocelli in acute angular triangle, with lateral ones virtually touching the eyes.

Specimen examined: 1 FEMALE. INDIA: Karnataka, Chitekanum (Samapge R.F.), 4.iii. 1994, Coll, P.M. Sureshan *et al.*





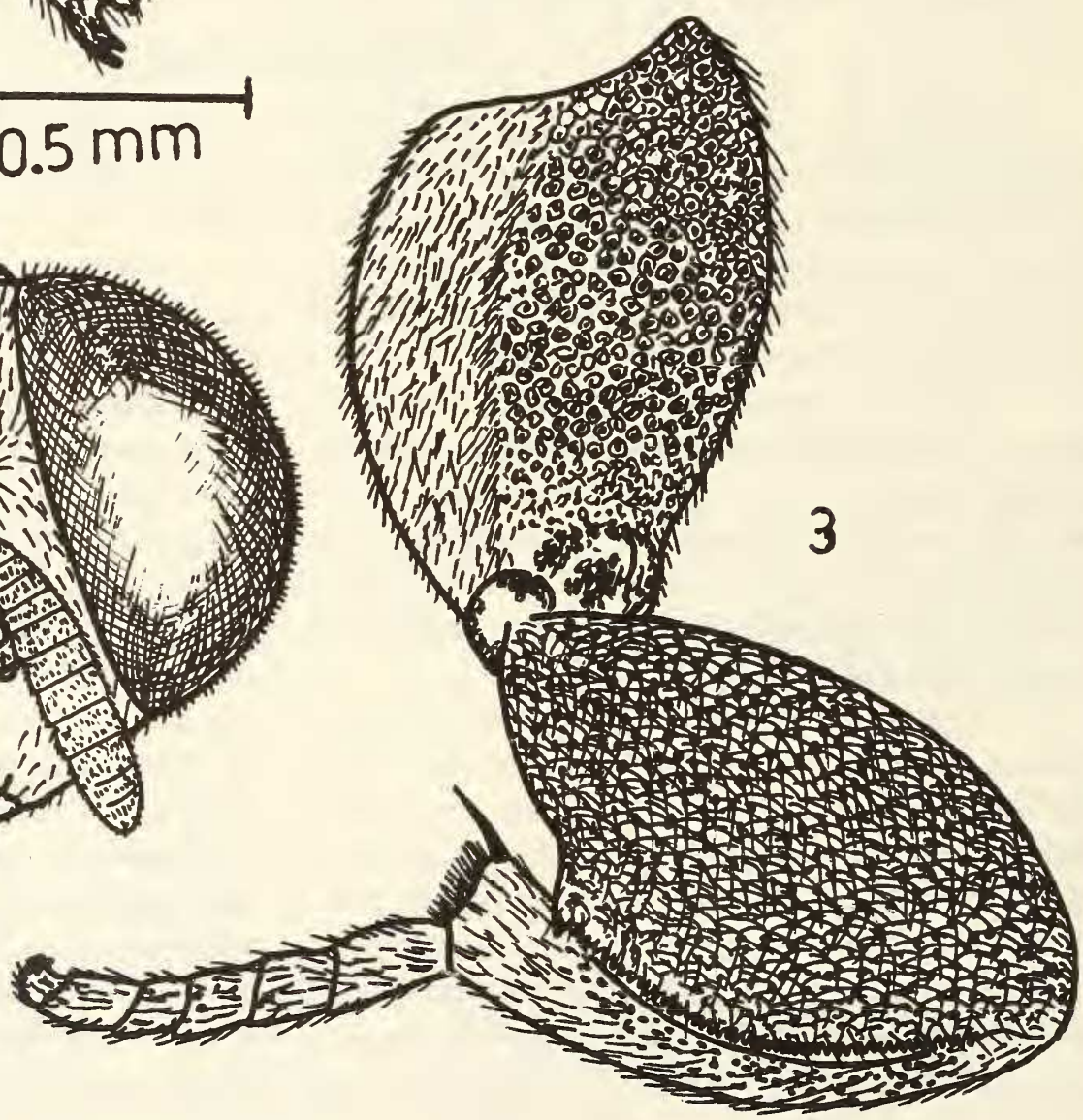


Fig. 1. *Dirhinus alticornus* (Masi) - Female. Head with antenna in lateral view.
Fig. 2-3. *Anneckeida angustifrons* Boucek - Female. 2. Head in anterior view. 3. Hind leg.

The specimens are presently kept in the collections of Zoological Survey of India, Western Ghats Field Research Station, Calicut, eventually to be deposited in the National Zoological collections of Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta.

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31. *GROOCA,* A NEW NAME FOR *NEOEPISTENIA* SURESHAN & NARENDRAN (HYMENOPTERA: CHALCIDOIDEA: PTEROMALIDAE)

The name *Neoepistenia* was applied (Sureshan and Narendran, 1995) to a genus erected for the new species *N. coorgensis* collected from the forests of Coorg (Karnataka). Unfortunately the authors overlooked the valid and prior use of *Neoepistenia* by Hedqvist (1958). *Neoepistenia* Hedqvist was erected with *N. flavoscapus* Hedqvist as the type species (Hymenoptera: Pteromalidae). Hence *Neoepistenia* Sureshan and Narendran is a junior homonym which has to be replaced according to the rules of the International Zoological Nomenclature. The new name *Grooca* is an arbitary combination of letters of feminine gender.

FAMILY: Pteromalidae
Genus **Grooca**, nom. nov.

Neoepistenia Sureshan and Narendran (1995) *J.Bombay nat. Hist. Soc. 92(1)*: 96-99. Not Hedqvist, 1958.

Grooca coorgensis (Sureshan and Narendran), comb. nov.

Neoepistenia coorgensis Sureshan and Narendran, 1995, *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc. 92(1)*: 96-99.

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